Docket No. 294625US Preliminary Amendment

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 6-21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0039]

Example 1

PON was purified by using serum prepared from pooled human plasma. The human serum was applied to a phenyl-agarose column (Phenyl Sepharose, Amersham Pharmacia) equilibrated with physiological saline containing 1 mM calcium chloride. The column was washed with the same solvent, and then the adsorbed PON was eluted with an aqueous solution containing 50 w/v % ethylene glycol and 1 mM sodium calcium chloride. This solution was desalted and concentrated by using an ultrafiltration membrane (30 kDa) with a 25 mM Tris-hydrochloride buffer (pH 7.5) containing 1 mM calcium chloride, 25 w/v % glycerol and 0.5 w/v % CHAPS, and applied to a quaternary ammonium type-agarose column (Q-Sepharose, Pharmacia) equilibrated with the same solution. After the column was washed with the same solution, elution was performed with a sodium chloride concentration increasing stepwise in the order of 0.1 M  $\rightarrow$  0.15 M  $\rightarrow$  0.2 M  $\rightarrow$  0.25 M  $\rightarrow$  1 M. The fractions eluted with 0.2 M to 0.25 M sodium chloride were collected and concentrated by using an ultrafiltration membrane (10 kDa).

Please replace the paragraph at page 17, lines 7-17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0053]

Reference Example 2

The eluate obtained after the hydrophobic carrier treatment was applied to an anion exchange (DEAE-type agarose) column equilibrated with 25 mM Tris-hydrochloride buffer

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(pH 7.4) containing 1 mM calcium chloride, 25 w/v% ethylene glycol glycerol and one of various detergents (polyoxyethylene alkylphenyl ether (trade name: Triton X-100), polyoxyethylene fatty acid ester (trade name: Tween 80), octylglucoside), and PON was eluted with 0.15 M sodium chloride. The concentrations of Triton X-100 and Tween 80 added were 0.1 w/v %, and the concentration of octylglucoside added was 0.5 w/v %. The results are shown in Table 7.